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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/008,617	12/03/2001	John Peter Karidis	PRS920010136US1	3283

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EXAMINER

LEA EDMONDS, LISA S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/008,617

Applicant(s)

KARIDIS ET AL.

Examiner

Lisa Lea-Edmonds

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 13 recites the limitation "the hinge" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10, 13-26, 28-38 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Sternglass et al. (5995025). With respect to claims 1-10 and 12, Sternglass et al. teaches a keyboard (10) for a data processing system (12) comprising a plurality of keyboard sections (14, 16, 18); a plurality of keys (28, 32, 34) attached to at least one of the keyboard sections; wherein the keyboard (10) is configured to assume a first position in which each of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) are extended and to assume a second position in which each of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) are collapsed; and further wherein responsive to a change in its extension state, wherein the keyboard (10) is configured to transmit a state signal to the data processing system, wherein at least one hinge (96A, 98A) for connecting adjacent keyboard sections, wherein the keys (28, 32, 34) of at least one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) remain accessible after the keyboard assumes the second position, wherein one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) includes a palm rest, wherein the keyboard (10) further comprises a keyboard housing (30) connected to one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) and configured to receive

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at least one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18), wherein the keyboard housing (30) includes a base plate; and a slider (222, 224 226, 228) configured to receive the keyboard section (14, 16, 18) and operatively coupled to the base plate to permit the slider (222, 224 226, 228) to move from a front edge of the base plate to a back edge of the base plate, wherein the state signal is transmitted to the data processing system (12) upon movement of the slider (222, 224 226, 228), responsive to the direction of movement of the slider (222, 224 226, 228), the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition between a wake mode and a sleep mode, wherein responsive to the keyboard (10) assuming the first position, the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition to a wake mode and further wherein responsive to the keyboard (10) assuming the second position, the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition to a sleep mode, wherein the keyboard (10) includes a switch for transmitting the state signal to the data processing system (12), and wherein the keyboard (10) includes a lock for selectively maintaining the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) in the first position and for selectively maintaining the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) in the second position. With respect to claims 13-26 and 28, Sternglass et al. teaches an input device (10) for a data processing system (12) comprising a keyboard (10) having a plurality of keys (28, 32, 34); at least one connector (96A, 98A) attached to the keyboard (10) and configured for folding a first portion of the keyboard (10) against a second portion of the keyboard (10); and wherein the keyboard (10) is configured to transmit a state signal to the data processing system (12) upon movement of the hinge (96A, 98A), wherein the keys (28, 32, 34) attached to the first portion of the keyboard (10) remain accessible after the first portion of the keyboard is folded against the second portion of the keyboard (10), wherein the plurality of keys (28, 32, 34) are arranged in a plurality of parallel, horizontal rows along a face of the keyboard (10) and further wherein the at least one connector (96A, 98A) is configured to cause the first portion of the keyboard (10) to be folded against the second portion of the keyboard horizontally along a line between adjacent rows of the keys (28, 32, 34), wherein the input device (10) further comprises a palm rest attached to the keyboard (10), wherein the first portion of the keyboard includes the palm rest, wherein the at least one connector (96A, 98A) is configured to cause the first portion of the keyboard (10) to be folded against the second portion of the

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keyboard (10) horizontally along a line between the palm rest and a row of the keys adjacent to the palm rest, wherein the input device (10) further comprises a keyboard housing (30) attached to the keyboard (10), wherein the second portion of the keyboard (10) includes the keyboard housing, wherein the at least one connector (96A, 98A) is configured to cause the first portion of the keyboard (10) to be folded against the second portion of the keyboard (10) horizontally along a line between the keyboard housing (30) and a row of the keys (28, 32, 34) adjacent to the keyboard housing (30), wherein the keyboard housing (30) includes a base plate; and a slider (222, 224, 226, 228) configured to receive the at least one connector and operatively coupled to the base plate to permit the slider to move from a front edge of the base plate to a back edge of the base plate, wherein the state signal is transmitted to the data processing system (12) upon movement of the slider (222, 224, 226, 228), wherein responsive to the direction of movement of the slider (222, 224, 226, 228), the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition between a wake mode and a sleep mode, wherein responsive to the direction of movement of the at least one connector (96A, 98A), the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition between a wake mode and a sleep mode, wherein the keyboard (10) includes a switch for transmitting the state signal to the data processing system (12), wherein the keyboard (10) includes a lock for selectively permitting the at least one connector (96A, 98A) to function. With respect to claims 29-38 and 40, Sternglass et al. teaches a data processing system (12) having a processor, a memory unit, and a keyboard (10), the keyboard (10) comprises a plurality of keyboard sections (14, 16, 18); a plurality of keys (24, 32, 34) attached to each of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18); wherein the keyboard (10) is configured to assume a first position in which each of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) are extended and to assume a second position in which each of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) are collapsed; and further wherein responsive to whether the keyboard (10) has assumed the first position or the second position, the keyboard (10) is configured to transmit a state signal to the data processing system (12), wherein the keyboard (10) further comprises at least one hinge (96A, 98A) for connecting adjacent keyboard sections (14, 16, 18), wherein the keys (28, 32, 34) of at least one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) remain accessible after the keyboard (10) assumes the second position, wherein one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) includes a palm rest,

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wherein the keyboard (10) further comprises a keyboard housing (30) connected to one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) and configured to receive at least one of the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18), wherein the keyboard housing (30) includes a base plate; and a slider (222, 224, 226, 228) configured to receive the keyboard section (14, 16, 18) and operatively coupled to the base plate to permit the slider (222, 224, 226, 228) to move from a front edge of the base plate to a back edge of the base plate, wherein the state signal is transmitted to the data processing system (12) upon movement of the slider (222, 224, 226, 228), wherein responsive to the direction of movement of the slider (222, 224, 226, 228), the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition between a wake mode and a sleep mode, wherein responsive to the keyboard (10) assuming the first position, the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition to a wake mode and further wherein responsive to the keyboard (10) assuming the second position, the state signal contains information for directing the data processing system (12) to transition to a sleep mode, wherein the keyboard (10) includes a switch for transmitting the state signal to the data processing system (12), wherein the keyboard (10) includes a lock for selectively maintaining the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) in the first position and for selectively maintaining the keyboard sections (14, 16, 18) in the second position as claimed (see for example figures 1A-7G and column 5 line 9 through column 16 line 53).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 11, 27, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sternglass et al. (5995025) as applied to the claims above, and further in view of Hagstrom et al. (4496200). With respect to claims 11, 27, and 39, Sternglass et al. teaches the invention as set forth

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above, however, Sternglass et al. lack a teaching of the keyboard (10) further comprising at least one roller as claimed. The apparatus of Hagstrom et al. is relied upon for its teaching of a keyboard (15) further comprising at least one roller (23) for facilitating movement of the keyboard (15) as claimed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Hagstrom et al. into the apparatus of Sternglass et al. as a different means of moving the keyboard as Sternglass et al. states "... other arrangements of sliding and folding sections for the expandable keyboard (10) are within the scope of this invention" (sic) (see column 13 lines 3-8).

Conclusion

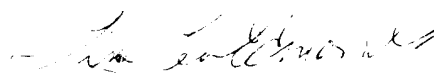
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please note the keyboard structures of Chung et al. (US 2002/0063690), Daniel (6174097), Batio (6081207), Coulon et al. (5712760), Roylance (5687058), and Leman (6215419).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lisa Lea-Edmonds whose telephone number is 703-305-0265. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 703-308-4815. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-1782.

Lisa Lea-Edmonds
Examiner
Art Unit 2835



June 16, 2003